

REMARKS

Claims 12-21, 23 and 25-29 are pending. Claims 22 and 30 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer as drawn to non-elected subject matter. The applicants reserve the right to pursue claims of this scope in further applications.

The Final Office Action states that Claims 12-21, 23, and 25-29 are allowable to the extent that they read on Group IV, i.e., a composition comprising a polymer, at least one chelator, a linking group and a PMALWMR blocking moiety. See Office Action at page 2. Claims 12-21, 23, and 25-29 have been amended to recite a PMALWMR peptide blocking moiety. In addition, Claim 12 has been amended to clarify that upon interaction of the PMALWMR peptide blocking moiety with a target substance the T_1 of the MRI agent is decreased. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification, see for example, page 2, lines 19 through page 3, line 11 and page 9, line 4 through page 10, line 11. Claims 22 and 30 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer as drawn to non-elected subject matter.

On the basis of the amendments and remarks presented herein, Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance. Please direct further questions in connection with this Application to the undersigned at (415) 781-1989.

Respectfully submitted,
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